

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile station, comprising:

a communication part that comprises a controller, an RF transceiver and an antenna; and

a self-powered information entry part comprising a keypad or keyboard module that is detachable from said communication part and that is coupled, whether attached or detached, through a wireless link to said communication part for conveying keystroke information from said information entry part to said communication part.

2. A mobile station as in claim 1, wherein said wireless link is comprised of an RF link.

3. A mobile station as in claim 1, wherein said wireless link is comprised of a Bluetooth link.

4. A mobile station as in claim 1, wherein said keypad module further comprises a source for providing operating power for said keypad module.

5. A mobile station as in claim 4, wherein said source is comprised of at least one solar cell.

6. A mobile station as in claim 5, wherein said source is further comprised of at least one battery.

7. A keypad module, comprising an engaging mechanism for being detachably coupled to a wireless communication terminal and an interface for

being coupled, whether attached or detached, through a wireless link to a wireless communication terminal for conveying keypad-generated information from said keypad module to said wireless communication terminal.

8. A keypad module as in claim 7, wherein said wireless link is comprised of an RF link.

9. A keypad module as in claim 7, wherein said wireless link is comprised of a Bluetooth link.

10. A keypad module as in claim 7, and further comprising a source for providing operating power for said keypad module.

11. A keypad module as in claim 10, wherein said source is comprised of at least one solar cell.

12. A keypad module as in claim 11, wherein said source is further comprised of at least one battery.

13. A method for dialing a telephone number, comprising steps of:

providing a keypad module that is detachably coupled to a wireless communication terminal;

entering information for specifying a telephone number using a keypad on said keypad module; and

whether said keypad module is attached to or detached from said wireless communication terminal, conveying keypad generated information from said keypad module to said wireless communication terminal through a wireless link.

14. A method as in claim 13, and further comprising a step of powering said keypad module using a solar cell located on said keypad module.

15. A mobile station, comprising:

a communication part that comprises a controller, an RF transceiver and an antenna; and

an information entry part comprising a keypad or keyboard module that is separate from said communication part and that is coupled through an RF link to said communication part for conveying keystroke information from said information entry part to said communication part, said module comprising at least one solar cell for powering said module.

16. A mobile station as in claim 15, wherein at least one of said mobile station and said module are adapted for being mechanically attached to one another and detached from one another.

17. An information entry module that comprises a keypad or a keyboard and that further comprises an interface for being coupled through a wireless link to a wireless communication terminal for conveying user-generated keystroke information from said module to said wireless communication terminal, said module further comprising at least one solar cell for powering said module.

18. An information entry module as in claim 17, wherein at least one of said wireless communication terminal and said module are adapted for being mechanically attached to one another and detached from one another.

19. An information entry module as in claim 17, wherein said wireless link is a uni-directional link.

20. An information entry module as in claim 17, wherein said wireless link is a bi-directional link.